

## **REMARKS**

By the *Office Action* of 06 February 2004, Claims 1-9, 13-15 and 18-25 are pending in the Application, Claims 10-12, 16, 17 and 26-66 cancelled, Claims 3, 4 13-15, 18-21 withdrawn, and Claims 1, 2, 5-9, and 22-25 rejected. By the present *Supplemental Response and Amendment*, the Applicant amends Claims 1 and 6-9, cancels Claims 2 and 5, and leaves unchanged Claims 22-25. The pending Claims are believed novel and non-obvious over the cited art.

No new matter is believed introduced by the present *Supplemental Response and Amendment*. It is respectfully requested that the present amendments be entered, and respectfully submitted that the present Application is in condition for allowance for the following reasons.

### **1. Docket Number and Change in Correspondence Address**

Applicant respectfully requests the docket number of this Application be changed from 7648.0006 to GTRC141. The prosecution of this Application has been transferred to a new law firm, and its docketing procedures would benefit with this new docket number. A *Power of Attorney and Correspondence Address Indication Form* to the present firm is filed concurrently in the USPTO to reflect that the new law firm is now prosecuting this Application.

Please note the new Applicant is a small entity, and thus fees related to this application should reflect such status.

### **2. The Claims**

Applicant's new counsel thanks the Examiners on this case upon review of the prosecution history, and fully appreciates the patience exhibited by the Examiners shown prior counsel. New counsel looks forward to the continued prosecution of this Application under new representation, and apologizes that the previously submitted *Reply* dated August 5, 2004, although a *bona fide* reply, was not fully responsive.

To facilitate the present prosecution of this Application, Applicant assumes that the Claims as amended in the dated 05 August 2004 *Reply* by previous counsel were not entered by the Examiner, as the *Reply* was found to be not fully responsive. Thus, the Listing of Claims as provided herein are submitted with markings to indicate the changes that have been made relative the Listing of Claims in the last responsive reply entered by the Examiner, namely, the reply filed by Applicant on 26 November 2003.

Applicant amends Claim 1 so that it remains drawn to the previously elected group of inventions and consistent with the specie election previously provided. Applicant respectfully submits that the currently amended Claim 1 is now fully responsive and consistent with the previously elected group of inventions and specie. Claim 1 is amended herein to clarify and make more definite the characteristics and properties of the presently claimed invention. Claim 1 now recites in part a preamble as follows:

“A recyclable adhesive or adhesive coating that is substantially tacky and forms a pressure-sensitive adhesive which is capable of bonding to a surface upon contact wherein the recyclable adhesive or adhesive coating...”

Applicant respectfully submits that the preamble now provides the basis for a structural difference that makes the currently claimed invention patentably distinguishable over the cited prior art.

Applicant deletes reference in Claim 1 to the backbone compound in favor of a second monomer compound. The amended Claim 1 now recites that the recyclable adhesive or adhesive coating comprises a polymer which is recited to be comprised of the specified percentage of cationic repeat units, a cationic monomer compound, and a second monomer compound. Applicant respectfully submits that the currently amended claim makes clear and distinct the currently claimed invention by use of the term “second monomer compound” instead of “backbone compound”.

Support for currently amended Claim 1 is found in the *Specification*. See currently amended specification on page 13; lines 5-7 and Examples 1-4, pages 18-19. Further, the Examiner previously recognized that the *Specification* specifically discloses copolymers of a cationically charged monomer and another comonomer copolymerizable therewith. See *Paper No. 7, page 4, lines 3-6*.

It is respectfully submitted that the pending Claims upon entrance of this *Supplementary Response and Amendment* now present Claims in form for allowance.

#### **4. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) / 103(a)**

Claims 1-2, 5-9 and 22-25 are rejected under 35 USC § 102(a) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 USC § 103(a) as obvious over Mandeville (US Patent 6,007,803). The basis of this rejection was previously stated in Detailed Action § 22-23 of the *Office Action* of 28 June 2002, and further discussed in Detailed Action § 14 of the *Office Action* of 28 February

2003, and the *Advisory Action* of 13 August 2003. Applicant respectfully submits that the currently claimed invention is neither anticipated nor made obvious by the disclosures of Mandeville.

The preamble of Claim 1 currently specifies that the adhesive coating be substantially tacky and be capable of being formed into a pressure sensitive adhesive ("PSA"). Mandeville discloses a broad genus of polymers that including copolymers formed by monomer selection from a large group of cationically charged monomers and hydrophobic monomers wherein the monomers can be used in a range of 20-80%. Applicant respectfully submits Mandeville does not teach or disclose selection of a specific species within the genus or subgenus groups that would have the properties of a copolymer that is substantially tacky and suitable for use as a PSA. Mandeville specifically teaches selection of monomers in ratios suitable for use as toxin binding agents. There is no teaching or disclosure in Mandeville that would provide motivation to one skilled in the art to modify or use this reference to develop a substantially tacky polymer capable of being formed into a PSA.

Claims 1-2, 5-9 and 22-25 are rejected under 35 USC § 102(a) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 USC § 103(a) as obvious over Huth (US Patent 5,518,585). The basis of this rejection was previously stated in Detailed Action § 22-23 of the *Office Action* of 28 June 2002, and further discussed in Detailed Action § 14 of the *Office Action* of 28 February 2003, and the *Advisory Action* of 13 August 2003. Applicant respectfully submits that the currently claimed invention is neither anticipated nor made obvious by the disclosures of Huth.

The preamble of Claim 1 currently specifies that the adhesive coating be substantially tacky and be capable of being formed into a pressure sensitive adhesive ("PSA"). Huth discloses a broad genus of polymers that including copolymers formed by monomer selection from a large group of cationically charged monomers and hydrophobic monomers wherein the monomers can be used in a range of 2-20% and 60-95% by weight, respectively. Applicant respectfully submits Huth does not teach or disclose selection of a specific species within the genus or subgenus groups that would have the properties of a copolymer that is substantially tacky and suitable for use as a PSA. Huth specifically teaches selection of monomers in ratios suitable for use as dispersions in neutral sizing of paper pulp. Applicant respectfully submits there is no teaching or disclosure in Huth that would provide motivation to one skilled in the art to modify or use this reference to develop a substantially tacky polymer capable of being formed into a PSA.

Claims 1-2, 5-9 and 22-25 are rejected under 35 USC § 102(a) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 USC § 103(a) as obvious over Bister (US Patent 4,871,594). The basis of this rejection was previously stated in Detailed Action § 22-23 of the *Office Action* of 28 June 2002, and further discussed in Detailed Action § 14 of the *Office Action* of 28 February 2003, and the *Advisory Action* of 13 August 2003. Applicant respectfully submits that the currently claimed invention is neither anticipated nor made obvious by the disclosures of Bister.

The preamble of Claim 1 currently specifies that the adhesive coating be substantially tacky and be capable of being formed into a pressure sensitive adhesive ("PSA"). Bister discloses a broad genus of polymers that including copolymers formed by monomer selection from a large group of cationically charged monomers and hydrophobic monomers wherein the monomers can be used in a range of 1-20% and 80-99% by weight, respectively. Applicant respectfully submits Bister does not teach or disclose selection of a specific species within the genus or subgenus groups that would have the properties of a copolymer that is substantially tacky and suitable for use as a PSA. Bister specifically teaches selection of monomers in ratios suitable for use as dispersions in neutral sizing of paper pulp. Applicant respectfully submits there is no teaching or disclosure in Bister that would provide motivation to one skilled in the art to modify or use this reference to develop a substantially tacky polymer capable of being formed into a PSA.

## **5. Fees**

The new Applicant, as noted in the 3.73(b) *Statement*, is a small entity.

There are no Claim fees believed due, as the total Claims upon entrance of this *Supplemental Response and Amendment* is unchanged.

This *Supplemental Response and Amendment* is filed within six months of the *Office Communication*, namely within three months, and thus a two month extension of time fee is included, with petition, in the amount \$225.00.

Should any further fees be due, authorization to charge deposit account No. 20-1507 is hereby expressly given.

## CONCLUSION

By the present *Supplemental Response and Amendment*, the Application has been in placed in full condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests early and favorable action. Should the Examiner have any further questions or reservations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned Attorney at 404.885.2773.

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Richard T. Timmer

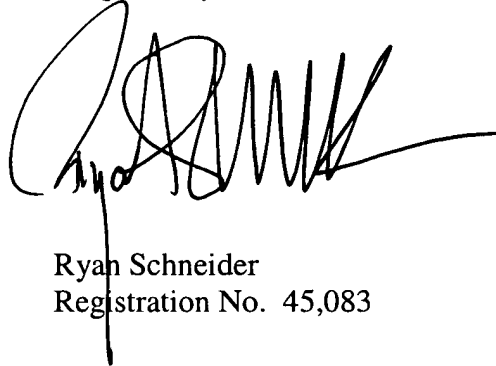


Signature

8 Feb '05

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